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‘SATURDAY NIGHT’: WIIG OUT? {page 10}

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PAIGE OZAROSKI/METRO

Hip-hop. Minaj

▶ “Black Barbie” was in Center City signing autographs at FYE yesterday evening.

Nicki Minaj, one of music’s hottest things these days, brought her cross-country promotional tour to Philadelphia yesterday to sign her new album for fans. And those fans showed up en masse. Hundreds of people lined both Sansom and Chestnut streets just west of Broad Street for hours before Minaj finally arrived at about 5 p.m. The screams could be heard for blocks. {page 02}

Camden PD chief blames ’burbs for drug plague

Undercover sting nets 49 people allegedly looking for illegal drugs Tuesday night ◗ 35 arrested came from suburbs surrounding drug-infested city {page 03}

Sports

High hopes for Phillies as season opens

Opener against Pittsburgh today brings dreams of seventh straight division title ◗ Pitchers hold key to another run {page 18}

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In the news

18

Months since two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and former Philadelphia Inquirer editor Bill Marimow was relieved of his duties as newsroom chief. He is returning to helm the recently-sold paper, according to a press release sent out yesterday.

In the news

Lawsuit
The widow of a man who was fatally electrocuted in September while working on the recently opened Revel Casino filed a wrongful death suit yesterday against two construction companies involved in the project, The Associated Press reported. Carmen Bradley's husband Bryan Bradley was killed when lightning struck an 800-foot tall metal crane.

Two men sue NJ for weed

NEW JERSEY. Two men are suing the state for its lack of movement in implementing a medical marijuana program, the Star-Ledger reported yesterday.

Richard Caporusso of Burlington County claimed he suffers unwanted side effects from prescription drugs due to the delay and physician Jeffrey Pollack, who practices in Mays Landing, criticized the fact that the state still has not registered patients for the program.

The New Jersey Compassionate Use Medical Marijuana Act passed two years ago but is not yet practiced anywhere in the state.

METRO/AW

Star power fuels new airline debut

SOUTHWEST PHILADELPHIA. If airplanes ran on star power instead of jet fuel, the first Virgin America flight to depart from Philadelphia for Los Angeles yesterday would have been able to travel around the globe without any pit stops.

Some of Philadelphia's favorites from the FX dark comedy television series, "It's Always Sunny" — including the epic character "Green Man" — were also joined other celebrities like Seth Green and Amber Rose.

METRO

Child allegedly dropped off with crack

HARRISBURG. A Pennsylvania couple was arrested Tuesday when they dropped off their child at a preschool and allegedly also left behind a bag of crack cocaine, according to a report from CBS-21.

Kara Branche, 20, and Antwone Chisholm, 23, are charged with endangering the welfare of children after school employees found a small plastic bag believed to contain the drug around noon. METRO/AW

Tale of two commissions in Philly: Aging vs. youth

Mayor's Commission on Aging will spend $1.4M next year ◗ Mayor's Youth Commission will likely work on $94K ◗ Grants cited as difference in funds

As if teenage workers already didn't face enough barriers — their unemployment rate is more than double that for the rest of the country, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics — they may be competing for jobs with people three times their age who have access to more city resources.

The Mayor's Commission on Aging is an administrator of the Title V Senior Employment Program, which provides job search training to those 55 and older and places them in part-time subsidized positions in nonprofits and public agencies to gain experience.

In stark contrast, the Youth Commission has set a "future objective" to hold a job opportunities fair — its third since it was formed five years ago.

The difference between the two agencies? About $1.4 million. The Commission on Aging has an operating budget of $1.55 million per year, while the Youth Commission with $94,080.

"The numbers reflect the need to invest more in the voice of young people."
JOHNSON

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"The numbers reflect the need to invest more in the voice of young people in the Philadelphia Youth Commission," Councilman Kenyatta Johnson said. "As a new councilman, I believe we need to make the Youth Commission a priority in the budget."

Mayor Michael Nutter's deputy chief of staff Susan Biemiller said that, in terms of city dollars, the two commissions actually receive a comparable amount.

But the Commission on Aging is supplemented by a $1.5 million grant from nonprofit the Philadelphia Corporation for Aging, which receives proceeds from the state lottery.

"There is simply not a comparable program for the Youth Commission," Biemiller said. And one is not likely to materialize anytime soon — the Youth Commission is also operating without an executive director after the resignation of Jordan Harris late last year.

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Commission for older people older

Those under 18 make up 22.5 percent of Philadelphia's population while those over 65 make up 12.1 percent, census figures show.

"The Commission on Aging has been in place for quite some time and has built up an advocacy base, while the Youth Commission is relatively new," said City Council President Darrell Clarke.

METRO/AW

'Black Barbie' wows Philly

PAIGE OZAROSKI/METRO

▶ Minaj gave many of her enchanting poses yesterday.

Fast-rising hip-hop star Nicki Minaj, whose new album was released Tuesday, arrived to block-long crowds in Center City yesterday afternoon as hundreds jammed sidewalks along Chestnut and Sansom streets waiting for the pint-sized rapper.

She signed CDs of her new "Pink Friday: Roman Reloaded" — which fans were required to purchase in order to stand on the lines just west of Broad Street — inside the FYE store at Broad and Chestnut streets.

To honor her arrival, which occurred at about 5 p.m. to screams that could be heard from City Hall, city Sheriff Jewel Williams presented an honorary sheriff's badge to the woman heralded by The New York Times as the greatest female rapper ever.

She was expected to leave town later this evening to continue a nationwide tour promoting her second album.

METRO

Camden drug busts show burbs' addicts

- **Seventy percent of arrests came from outside the city**
- **Police chief called suburbs 'life blood' of drug market**

MICHAEL BUCKNER/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Camden undercover officers posed as drug dealers Tuesday.

When Camden police set up a sting for purchasers of illegal drugs in the city's Lanning Square section, they might not have realized the Tuesday night undercover operation would so easily highlight a problem for many struggling urban areas: suburban drug addiction.

The numbers easily told a tale of how those living in suburbs of areas like Camden and North Philadelphia often fuel the ever-fluid drug trade. Thirty-five of the 49 people busted by undercover officers posing as drug dealers for allegedly trying to buy drugs traveled into Camden from surrounding counties.

"The suburban drug buyers are the life blood to our open-air drug market epidemic, and we will continue to aggressively target these offenders," Camden police Chief John Thomson said. "By sharing the arrest intelligence with our law enforcement partners, hopefully these suspects can be interdicted prior to crossing into our city to commit further offenses."

Those arrested were charged with loitering to commit a controlled dangerous substances offense. They face up to a $1,000 fine and six months in jail. Those 35 people came from the suburbs of Camden, Gloucester, Burlington and Atlantic Counties, according to the list provided by the city.

"Whether you live in the suburbs or in Camden, last night's undercover operations should send a clear message that we will not tolerate these behaviors [that] deteriorate our neighborhoods and quality of life," Camden Mayor Dana Redd said.

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PAIGE OZAROSKI/METRO

Martin Luther King Plaza
On this site, in 1965 during the Freedom Rally, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. addressed hundreds of Hawthorne's residents and surrounding neighbors. The Hawthorne Square public housing development was renamed in Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s honor.

▶ The city unveiled a historical marker honoring King.

MLK speech site honored

CENTER CITY. A historical marker commemorating the civil rights leader's appearance near 12th and Catharine streets there on August 3, 1965, was unveiled yesterday.

King visited what was then known as Hawthorne Square, one of five locations where he held street corner rallies. The rallies were part of a two-day visit to Philadelphia as King visited northern cities to support the local civil rights movements and aid leaders in fundraising. About 2,300 people attended the Hawthorne rally.

"Dr. King left us with quite a legacy," said Philadelphia Housing Authority official Michael P. Kelly. "On this spot, he held a rally that addressed economic injustice and housing for the poor. These ideas are still valid today — and I am proud to be a part of PHA, which continues to give people hope."

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Jazzman plays up arts education at the Kimmel

Famed trumpeter Wynton Marsalis gives lecture mixed with music on value of arts and culture learning ◗ His visit coincides with Jazz Month

Jazz legend Wynton Marsalis kicked off the citywide celebration of Jazz Appreciation Month at the Kimmel Center on Tuesday. Smithsonian National Museum of African Art director Johnetta B. Cole introduced Marsalis by saying she loves "jazz as much as the devil loves sin."

The trumpeter then delivered a moving lecture, interwoven with musical performances and highlighting the value of arts to our society. Marsalis had originally written this mixed performance piece when he was asked to give the prestigious Nancy Hanks Lecture, the nation's foremost forum for arts advocacy at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. Some of the audience squirmed in their seats when he reminded them of America's history of slavery, racism and misogyny and mocked both the white face and black face versions of the minstrel show. His speech mostly focused on the current denigration of arts in society. He asked the audience to ponder, "A financial inheritance can be accurately assessed in dollars, but what is the value of an artistic heritage? Who calculates the value of 'Amazing Grace' or 'Yankee Doodle' or 'Go Down Moses'?"

During the Q&A, Marsalis encouraged kids to go to college and study more than music, and he made commitments to local schools. He promised to provide music to one local school and come to another "even if it took two years." He gave detailed tips to aspiring musicians.

"Practice is the price that you pay to be good," said Marsalis, who recommended practicing your weakest skill the most. "Playing all the way through, do not stop for the parts that you stumble."

"The answer is not more education, but more substantive and more culturally rooted education. The primary justification for the value of education is not some competition with other countries for technological jobs, or to win the so-called science race, or to beat anyone."
MARSALIS

LAURA GOLDMAN
letters@metro.us

KIMMEL CENTER

▶ Marsalis comes from a famed New Orleans musical family.

Jazz sounds

Luckily for Philadelphians, there will be more chances to hear world-class jazz at the Kimmel Center, which Downbeat magazine named one of the top venues in the world to hear jazz.

- Matt Wolf, vice president of programming at the Kimmel Center, highlighted an upcoming April 14 tribute by Grammy winner Danilio Perez to the music of Philadelphian McCoy Tyner.
- "Many do not realize the rich history of Philadelphia jazz: Johnny Coltrane, Benny Golson, Charlie Biddle, Terrell Stafford and the Heath Brothers," he said.

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Alleged plotter of 9/11 set for trial at Gitmo

Accused Sept. 11 mastermind Khalid Sheikh Mohammed and four suspected co-conspirators were ordered yesterday to stand trial before a Guantanamo war crimes tribunal on terrorism, murder and other charges in a case that could carry the death penalty, the Pentagon said.

GETTY IMAGES

The official overseeing the Guantanamo tribunals, retired Vice Adm. Bruce MacDonald, referred the case to a capital military tribunal on charges of terrorism, hijacking aircraft, conspiracy, murder in violation of the law of war, attacking civilians and other counts, the Pentagon said.

Mohammed and the other four are accused of conspiring with al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden and other members of the group.

The decision to move to trial in a military court follows years of political and legal wrangling over whether terrorism suspects like Mohammed and his alleged co-conspirators should be tried in civilian courts as criminals or before military courts as enemy combatants.

REUTERS

Tornadoes. Aftermath

▶ Michael Denicola, left, and Elizabeth Mogilnicki dig through the rubble of Mogilnicki's mother's home yesterday after a tornado rocked Forney, Texas, on Tuesday.

GETTY IMAGES

Cleanup is under way in Texas

Thousands of residents were without power and hundreds of flights were canceled yesterday as authorities surveyed the damage a day after up to a dozen tornadoes struck the densely populated Dallas-Fort Worth area of Texas.

Behind primary sweep, Romney oh-so-close to Republican nomination

MILWAUKEE. Mitt Romney made a big leap toward winning the Republican nomination with a clean sweep of three primaries yesterday that handed a stinging defeat to chief rival Rick Santorum.

The victories in Wisconsin, Maryland and Washington, D.C., will increase appeals from Republican party leaders for Santorum to quit so that Romney can gird for a difficult fight against

President Barack Obama.

In his victory speech in Milwaukee, Romney ignored Santorum and gave voters a sense of what the general election campaign will be like, sharply criticizing Obama for his handling of the U.S. economy and high gasoline prices.

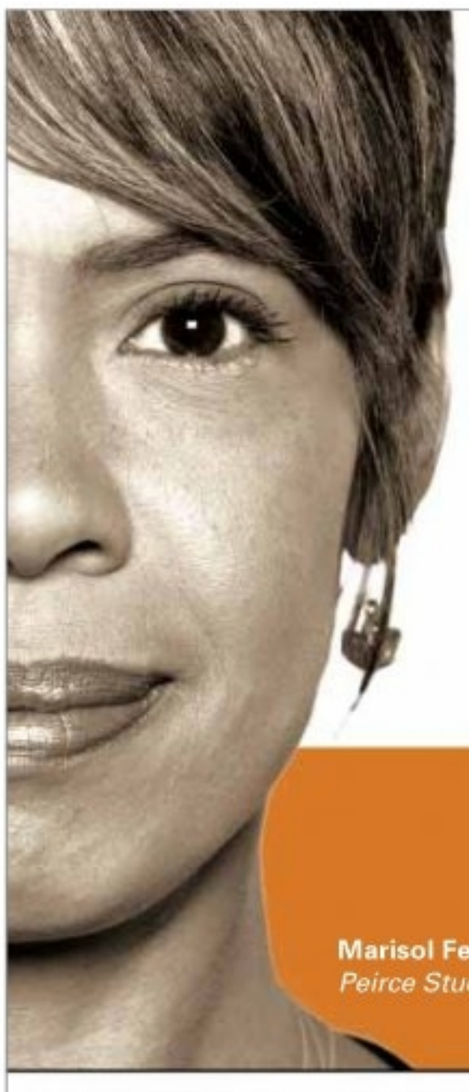
REUTERS

Obama signs insider trading bill, wants more curbs on Congress

WASHINGTON. President Barack Obama called yesterday for stricter controls on lawmakers to confront "the corrosive influence" of money in Washington as he signed into law an insider trading ban he said was needed to help restore trust in the U.S. government.

President Barack Obama said the STOCK Act he signed at the White House made plain that members of Congress using nonpublic information to improve their personal investment portfolios were breaking the law.

REUTERS



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Yahoo to lay off 2,000 employees

GETTY IMAGES

▶ A Yahoo spokeswoman said that every organization within the company was affected by the layoffs, but that some groups were affected more than others.

Yahoo Inc. will lay off 2,000 people, or 14 percent of its work force, in its deepest round of job cuts in years as new Chief Executive Scott Thompson tries to jump-start growth from within a leaner, more agile company while saving hundreds of millions of dollars.

Wall Street was lukewarm on the move, after two previous CEOs failed to find an answer to rivals like Web-search giant Google and the Facebook social-networking site.

Sunnyvale, Calif.-based Yahoo, which ended 2011 with some 14,000 employees, said it would save $375 million annually from the cuts, and will incur a pretax cash charge in the second quarter of $125 million to $145 million.

The company declined to comment on severance details. **REUTERS**

GETTY IMAGES

▶ The unemployment rate is seen holding steady at a three-year low of 8.3 percent.

Businesses add jobs, service sector growth dips

Businesses added more than 200,000 jobs in March, giving fresh evidence of recovery in the labor market, data showed yesterday.

The ADP National Employment Report showed the private sector added 209,000 positions last month, slightly above economists' expectations for a gain of 200,000 jobs.

Analysts said it did not change their forecasts for the government's more comprehensive labor market report for March due tomorrow, which includes both public and private sector employment.

Separate data showed a measure of employment in the vast U.S. services sector also rose last month, even though the pace of overall growth slowed. Analysts said the pullback was expected after the index ran up to a year high in February. **REUTERS**

James Murdoch's BSkyB exit puts Rupert Murdoch in firing line

James Murdoch's exit from chairmanship of BSkyB moves his father Rupert into the firing line in Britain, as an inquiry into a phone-hacking scandal turns its focus on his peculiar influence in the country.

Rupert Murdoch is due to appear this month before a judge-led inquiry into ethics and standards in the British press, which will be turning its attention to newspaper proprietors and politicians.

So far, James has taken most of the heat for a scandal at the Murdochs' best-selling Sunday tabloid, the News of the World. Rupert's youngest son ran the family's U.K. newspaper publisher News International when the scandal erupted last year, and has faced hard questions about how much he knew about illegal activity. **REUTERS**

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A funny thing happened this week while the left and right were busy trading barbs over the president's handling of the Obamacare case at the Supreme Court. Though perhaps funny isn't really the best way to describe it. We don't know, what do you think? Is it funny that the Obama Department of Justice fought for, and won, the legal right for prison officials to strip-search anyone arrested for even the most minor offenses?

The answer to that question probably depends on whether you're the one doing the searching — or the spreading.

You'd heard about the instantly infamous strip-search ruling, had you? We'll bet you didn't realize that President Obama was at least partially to blame for it, though. The conservative court voted 5-4 along ideological lines in the decision, but the government has the power to sway that ruling. And in this case, it urged it.

The New York Times, in its article on the topic Monday, didn't waste a single word on this minor detail. (Though they did say this: "The procedures endorsed by the majority are forbidden by statute in at least 10 states and are at odds with the policies of federal authorities." Could that be interpreted to suggest that the Obama DOJ actually opposed rather than supported the issue? We think so.) The Daily Show similarly dropped that ball Tuesday night, aiming fair cynicism at both the president and his rivals over the judicial review flap — Obama suggested the court would be out of bounds in overturning a Congressionally approved law; it wouldn't be — and even touching on the strip-search decision, but completely failing to mention the fact that the Obama administration lobbied for it!

BRENDAN SMIALOWSKI/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

▶ President Obama has received a surprising amount of policy support from the majority conservative Supreme Court.

Many people were understandably dismayed by this invasive ruling. With some 13 million people arrested in the U.S. each year, that's a whole lot of unnecessary embarrassment for such hardened criminals as dog-leash law violators, minor drug offenders and peaceful protesters. (And we're sure it's not necessary to point out that minorities will be the overwhelming victims of this new federal overreach.)

So there was some outrage, sure. But it didn't come close to approaching that surrounding Obama's poorly thought out comments on the court. Conservatives have spent the past couple weeks arguing that the president's health care law represents a gross governmental tyranny in that it forces a small number of people to buy into a health insurance system that they'll most likely be entering at one point or another anyway. Considering their feelings on big government, surely they'd be upset over this new interpretation of the law? But no: The right-wing mind set would nearly always trade individual liberty in the name of preventing the most unlikely of risks. (Previously, courts had ruled that prison officials must have a reasonable suspicion that a detainee might be harboring contraband.)

And Democrats? Mum.

It bears repeating: The two-party system is terribly destructive for both sides of the aisle. As civil rights lawyer Stephen Bergstein points out: "This position would probably be identical to that advanced by a Republican presidential administration." If you listen to the right, our president is the most radical leftist ever born. As we've been saying for some time, that's simply, unfortunately, not true.

The my-side blindness that leads to lefties ignoring failures of leadership under Democrats, and conservatives to disregard Republican transgressions, means we get the worst of both ideologies regardless of who's in charge. Under the Obama presidency, we've seen that with a continuation and even reinvigoration of Bush/Cheney-era rollbacks in civil liberties.

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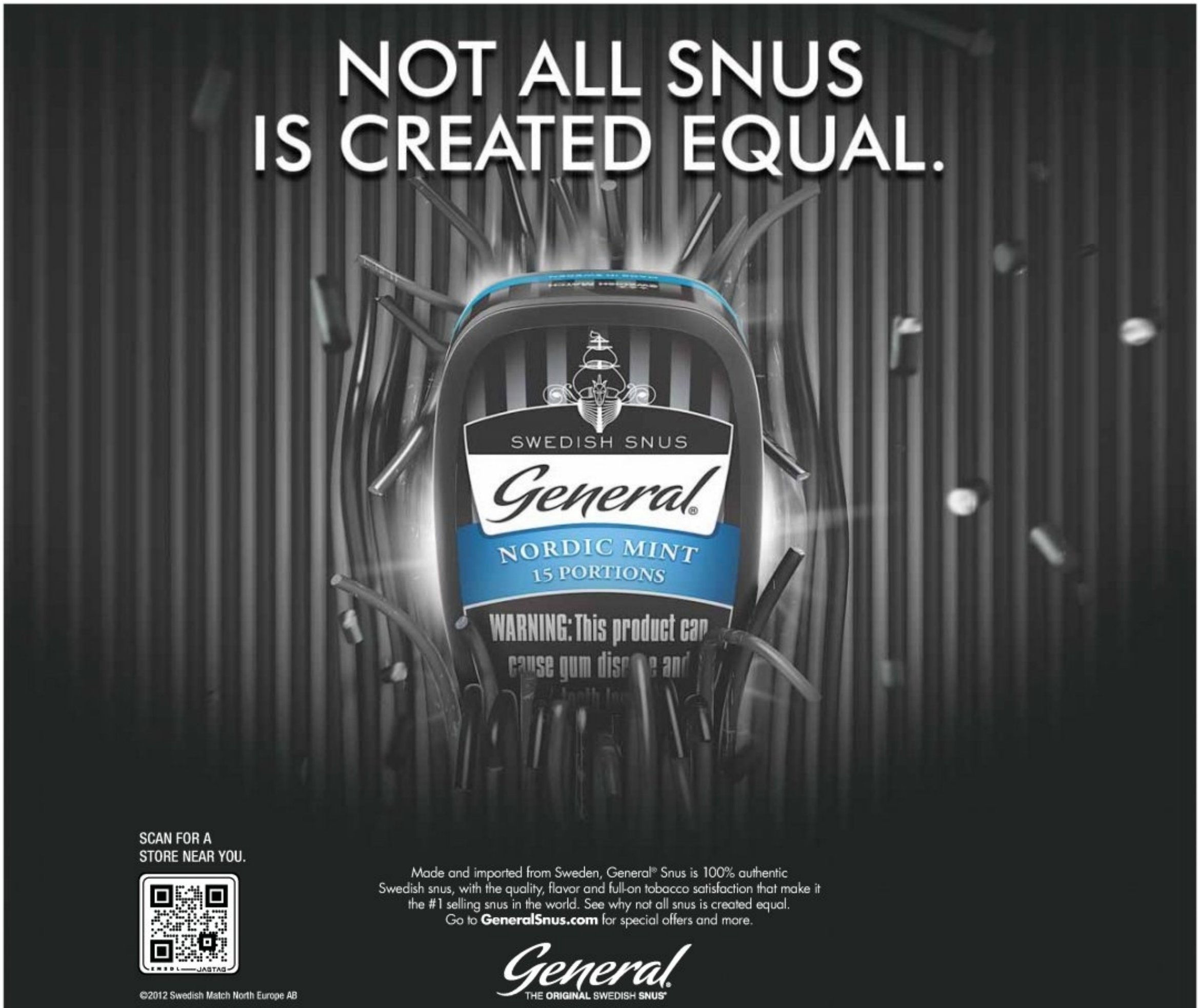
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THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Ricky Gervais has a bone to pick about religion, Garry Shandling is trying to keep up with trends, Craig Ferguson is sleeping funny and Seth MacFarlane is revisiting history.

@rickygervais
Saying "Atheism is a belief system", is like saying "not going skiing, is a hobby."

@GarryShandling
OK, so I misunderstood what planking was at first. Big deal.

@CraigyFerg
Ugh, I feel like Burt Reynolds - woke up covered in hair. My giant German Shepherd slept on top of my bed last night. So did my dog.

@SethMacFarlane
"I'M STANDING ON THE FRONT OF A BOAT!" -- Titanic (first draft)

MacFarlane

Key 'SNL' players moving on?

Two sources have told Us Weekly that several of the best, more recognizable "Saturday Night Live" players are ready to move on. "**Kristen Wiig**, **Andy Samberg** and **Jason Sudeikis** are all leaving after the end of the season," says one insider. "It will be a huge blow to the show. Without Andy's video shorts and Kristen saving every skit, they'll need help!"

A rep for both Wiig, 38, and Sudeikis, 36, deny the rumor, telling Us, "No decisions are made until the season is over." But another "pal" of Wiig's says the timing is right: "Kristen was talking about leaving a while ago. With her movie success, it's no surprise."

It's time, but it's too bad — they (and the occasional crazy guest host, a la **Lindsay Lohan**) made the show worth watching this season. Although now that we think about it, that's a pretty sad highlight reel.

▶ Wiig, Sudeikis and Samberg may no longer have "Saturday Night" plans.

More Vanderpump!

Lisa Vanderpump is the one "Real Housewives of Beverly Hills" star who doesn't need a reality TV paycheck — yet she's the one cast member who is getting a spin-off.

▶ Vanderpump

"Bravo has confirmed Lisa's own show," an insider tells Life & Style. "It's going to be about her restaurant Sur Lounge and feature the staff and happenings there."

"A key character in the show is going to be **Scheana Marie**, the woman who hooked up with **John Mayer** and **Eddie Cibrian** and works at Lisa's restaurant," a second source tells Life & Style.

Don't worry: Vanderpump will also still be a prime time player on the show that made her famous. "Yes, she's also returning for Season 3 of 'Housewives,'" the insider says. "She'll be juggling both."

Madonna back on top

She's still got it: **Madonna**'s new album, "MDNA," debuted at No. 1 on the Billboard Top 200 and it also enjoyed the biggest first week sales of the year. The album moved over 359,000 copies in its first seven days, more than the debut numbers for any album in 2012, according to Neilsen/SoundScan. These stats made "MDNA" Madonna's fifth No. 1 studio CD in a row.

Madonna's still got it.

Talking points

Timberlake's summer wedding?

Justin Timberlake and **Jessica Biel** are reportedly looking to tie the knot as soon as this summer, according to People magazine. "Justin and Jessica are planning a big [summer] wedding," a source says. "Jessica initially wanted a smaller, more intimate wedding, but Justin from the beginning wanted a big wedding and that's what they have decided on." He also apparently wants to be in fantastic shape for the big day: "Justin has put on a few pounds recently after working out a lot for a movie role, but now with the summer in sight he's back in the gym and working out harder than ever," the source adds. 'He's seen the effort Jessica puts [into staying] fit and looking healthy and he doesn't want to go the other way. She's inspired him to get fit again."

No royal heir on the way ... yet

Despite near-constant rumors of a baby on the way, **Prince William** and **Kate Middleton** are definitely not making any big announcements soon, a source assures Us Weekly. "Kate is not pregnant or about to make a pregnancy announcement," the source says. There are plenty of other reasons for the royal couple to celebrate, though, as their first anniversary is coming up at the end of this month and William just completed a six-week deployment in Argentina.

Hemsworth on wedding rumors: 'I'm young!'

Liam Hemsworth must have heard the rumors about he and **Miley Cyrus** being engaged, because he's making it clear that it's far too early for anything like that. "Marriage and kids are way in the future for me," Hemsworth tells OK! Magazine. "I'm young. It's not really on my mind at the moment — marriage, kids or anything." But he is happy to be in a serious relationship with Cyrus since it can be so hard to trust people in Hollywood: "I like to surround myself with good people and good moral values," he says. "It's hard sometimes to work out in this town what people want from you."

▶ Hemsworth

Mars not out of the closet

Reports of **Bruno Mars**' coming out of the closet as gay are apparently phony, his rep insists to Hollyscoop. "Someone pulled a prank and the world has run with it," the singer's rep says. "The Internet is really powerful." A viewer-submitted CNN story had reported that Mars had told a Chicago radio station that he's homosexual. "The timing is bad. I hadn't realized it was April Fools' Day, but it's been pointed out to me, and I don't want to go too public with this," Mars supposedly said. His rep insists the whole thing was "completely fabricated."

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That time Tatum was grinding with Elton John ...

1. Ashton Kutcher, Jeffrey Katzenberg and **Jack Black** attended a basketball game between the New Jersey Nets and the Los Angeles Lakers at the Staples Center on Tuesday in Los Angeles.

2. New wax figures of **Prince William, Duke of Cambridge** and **Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge** were revealed at Madame Tussauds on Wednesday in London.

3. Channing Tatum and **Sir Elton John** got up close and personal during the 2012 Concert for the Rainforest Fund at Carnegie Hall on Tuesday, in New York City.

4. Tori Spelling promoted her new book "CelebraTori" at Bookends Bookstore on Tuesday in Ridgewood, N.J.

5. Nicki Minaj visited Elvis Duran & The Morning Show at Z100 Studio on Wednesday in New York City.

1: NOEL VASQUEZ/GETTY IMAGES
2: STUART WILSON/GETTY IMAGES
3: JAMIE MCCARTHY/GETTY IMAGES
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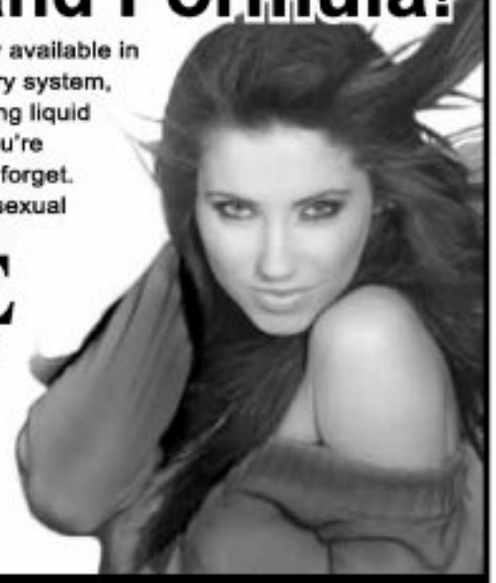

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Top 10 films

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▶ Stifler (Seann William Scott) and Jim (Jason Biggs) are back for a fourth helping of "Pie."

1 **'American Reunion'** Seann William Scott, Alyson Hannigan and all those other actors who didn't have quite as much post-"Pie" success return for another installment about this group of friends who find plenty of ways to sexually humiliate each other.

2 **'Titanic 3-D'** For the 100th anniversary of the Titanic James Cameron releases a 3-D adaptation of his 1997 film.

3 **'Wrath of the Titans'** Sam Worthington and Liam Neeson get all mythological on you again in this sequel to "Clash of the Titans."

4 **'Mirror Mirror'** Tarsem Singh puts his surrealistic spin on the Snow White legend.

5 **'The Hunger Games'** Potter and the vamps had their time. Now, a postapocalyptic teenage huntress takes center stage as a volunteer in her county's annual Hunger Games, in which teens fight to the death.

6 **'21 Jump Street'** Based on the '80s TV series, this one stars Jonah Hill and Channing Tatum as two less-than-slick police officers.

7 **'Jeff, Who Lives at Home'** By now, you'd think we'd be sick of seeing Jason Segel play a shorts-wearing manchild who lives in his mom's basement. And yet, we're not at all.

8 **'John Carter'** Taylor Kitsch plays a Civil War vet who can't catch a break: He ends up on Mars, gets taken prisoner by giants and then should probably go back and save the princess.

9 **'A Thousand Words'** Eddie Murphy angers a spiritual guru, inciting a curse that gives him only 1,000 words to speak before he dies.

10 **'Silent House'** This low-budget horror flick tells the story of a father and daughter renovating an old cottage — until the weird noise coming from the top floor becomes the priority. METRO

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Who's your sugar daddy?

One dating website specializes in setting rich men up with pretty young things hoping to be pampered

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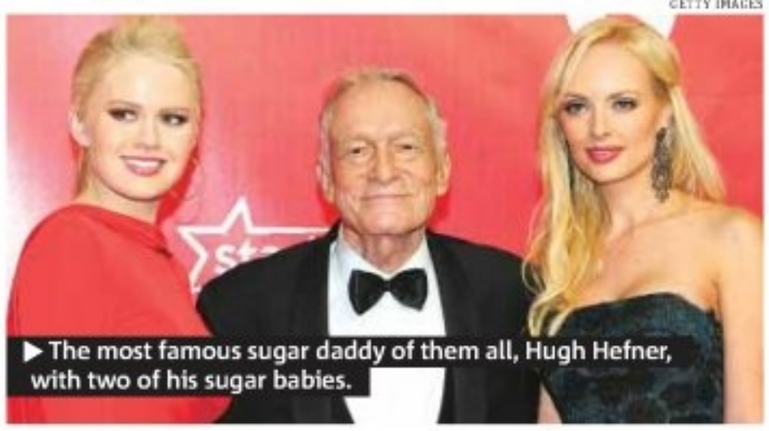
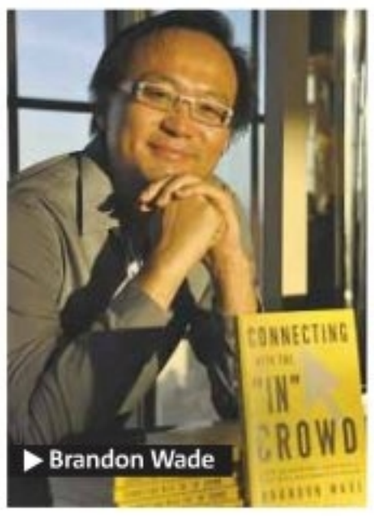


▶ The most famous sugar daddy of them all, Hugh Hefner, with two of his sugar babies.

Brandon Wade never had an easy time of it when it came to dating. Being smart, but socially awkward, he was given some sage wisdom during a particularly painful phase of his life.

"My mom was telling me when I was growing up, 'Study hard and when you're successful and have the resources; if you're willing to be generous, then a lot of women will make themselves available to you,'" Wade says.

Thus was the inspiration for his online dating website, Seekingarrangement.com, where wealthy older men, whom Wade refers to as "sugar daddies," can find young, pretty "sugar babies."



▶ Brandon Wade

Before you recoil in disgust, Wade wants to remind skeptics that the concept isn't as cynical or as new as it may appear.

"If you look at a lot of the eastern cultures, specifically India and China, [there are] arranged marriages. A lot of it is about being practical in a certain sense," Wade explains. "Chemistry isn't really developed until much later, when two people have really spent a lot of time together. Obviously, love grows from there."

Wade says that his site boasts 1.2 million members, with the ratio being about 10 ladies for every man. Women can join for free and men pay $50 a month to use the site.

"Diamond Club" members get special vetting from the site: "In order to be certified, they would have to send in proof of identity and proof of how much income they make, either from a W2 or a tax return," Wade says.

Though the site continues to draw plenty of criticism, Wade believes that any press is good press.

"A lot of students were sugar babies. Around 40 percent of the sugar babies were college students. They are on the website seeking to date wealthier guys who are going to help them fund their college education," he says. "That created a whole bunch of controversy and got us on '20/20' and 'Dr. Phil.' The controversy attracts the media — but at the same time, it gives us a platform to really make our case. It's a strange cycle."

Prostitute or sugar baby?

"Prostitutes have to give up self-worth," Wade says. "They have to sleep around with people they don't want to sleep with in order to get what they want, which is money. A prostitute is very sleazy — whereas a sugar baby is very glamorous. When she's looking for a sugar daddy, she does not just accept any sugar daddy. They make sure that there's chemistry and that it's someone that they would actually want to be with to begin with."

SYLVIA ROXROY
letters@metro.us

Reader love notes

Send us your love notes

E-mail **lovenotes@metro.us** with your special message. Please keep it to the length of a tweet — 140 characters. We'll print it in next week's dating section for free!

▶ *Babypoo, I love you because I love myself when I'm with you. Muahhh!!!!*

▶ *To my husband Shawn! Thank you for being the best hubby and daddy ever. I love you with all my heart. From your wife, Kia*

▶ *PapaBear - You will always be my missing puzzle piece. I will wait for you always, peegee*

▶ *Dearest Matubo, I want to thank you for the best six years of my life. You have made me the happiest cookie in the whole universe. Everything from waking up to your breath in the morning, runnIng around happy daze with you and dancing my butt off with you at ultra fest, are any of the great times we have had together. I look forward to growing old with you and being two grumpy old people. Ich liebe dich auch. -Froofy*

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Letters

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Hey Metropolitik, what about Obama?

RE: "OBAMA THE CAMPAIGNER": Metropolitik just devoted an entire column to criticizing the budget proposed by the Republicans. Fair enough. But Metropolitik is strangely silent on Obama's 2012 budget, which the House voted to reject last week by a vote of 414-0. Yes, that's right: 414-0. In a rare display of bipartisanship with the Republicans, not a single Democrat voted for Obama's budget! Perhaps Metropolitik should devote some ink to explaining the deficiencies in Obama's budget.
RON SHELTON, VIA E-MAIL

Brayden Simms now accuses readers who criticize his political stance as being confused. I didn't know that calling him an "Obama shill" was an insult to him since he has only good things to say about Obama! Nothing that Obama does is wrong in his columns. On the other hand, anything that the Republicans do is wrong and bad. What would you call that? Also, anyone who disagrees with him is a right-wing extremist. He doesn't mention anything that Obama does bad; I guess threatening the Supreme Court is fine. So definitely I say his writing is one-sided and he is a shill for Obama.
IGOR MANNIKUS, VIA E-MAIL

"The ... healing benefits of prayers said in faith can't be disputed."

RE: "ON A WISH AND A PRAYER: UNHEALTHY": So when this guy gets the news that he's ill and may die, I guess he'll just shrug his shoulders and die. Me? I'm gonna pray. The mind is unique and transformative, no doubt, and wishing blessings and good to oneself and others does indeed have a positive effect. And I do take full, unabashed ownership of this fact. The psychological and physiological healing benefits of prayers said in faith can't be disputed. There are thousands of years of proof that it works. Maybe you oughta research the facts. You could pray about it.
RICHARD ROACH, VIA E-MAIL

I have bad news for Steve Ahern: There is no valid study indicating that prayer has no value in helping those who are ill with many different medical and psychological problems. What studies have said is sometimes it appears to be useful and sometimes it appears not to be useful. A lot depends on which study you read. No scientific research has arrived at a definitive view, which is understandable since prayer is not really a legitimate area of study for scientists. **ADELAIDE VERPONI, VIA E-MAIL**

On Passover eve: Let those people go

Israel needs to let the Palestinians go. Passover and Easter are a perfect time to make good decisions to bring world peace while we bask in relative comfort in the West. Yes, let us settle the Holy Land issue. Then rich American Jews will stop throwing money at politicians in the USA. We will have a different kind of democracy in the USA where politicians dont need to be multimillionaires to represent us. If our money that divides and rules is stopped, I bet Middle East oil money will stop feeding their side, too.
SHIRLEY KOSHI, VIA E-MAIL

E-mail your letters: **letters@metro.us**

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words.
Metro reserves the right to edit all letters.
Please include your name and contact information.

Horoscope

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** It behooves you to subdue your assertiveness when it comes to a partnership arrangement. There are certain things that your counterpart will be better at doing, and you need to accept that.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** As long as you stick to working with tested methods and procedures, this can be a productive day for you. Experimenting with the unknown could set your entire operation back.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Lady Luck is only likely to help you when you stay on familiar turf. It behooves you to forego inclinations to gamble on persons or things about which you know little.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** Only after you have successfully dealt with family matters should you switch your focus to some of your other interests. Concerns of the home should be given top priority.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** You might have to make a choice regarding numerous circumstances that need attending. Some are positive, some could be counterproductive, but all are intermingled.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Before taking on anything new, you need to clean up any old, neglected jobs that you've left unattended. Only then will you be free to give all your attention to a new project.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** If your mate has to make a choice in an area where he or she used poor judgment in the past, don't let history repeat itself. Step in and offer some suggestions if you can.

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** Before taking on any new duties, finish what you have already started. If you attempt to do everything all at once, it will merely lead to lots of frustration and little productivity.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** It is extremely important to treat all of your friends with equal courtesy and respect. If you play favorites or show partiality, you are likely to lose out.

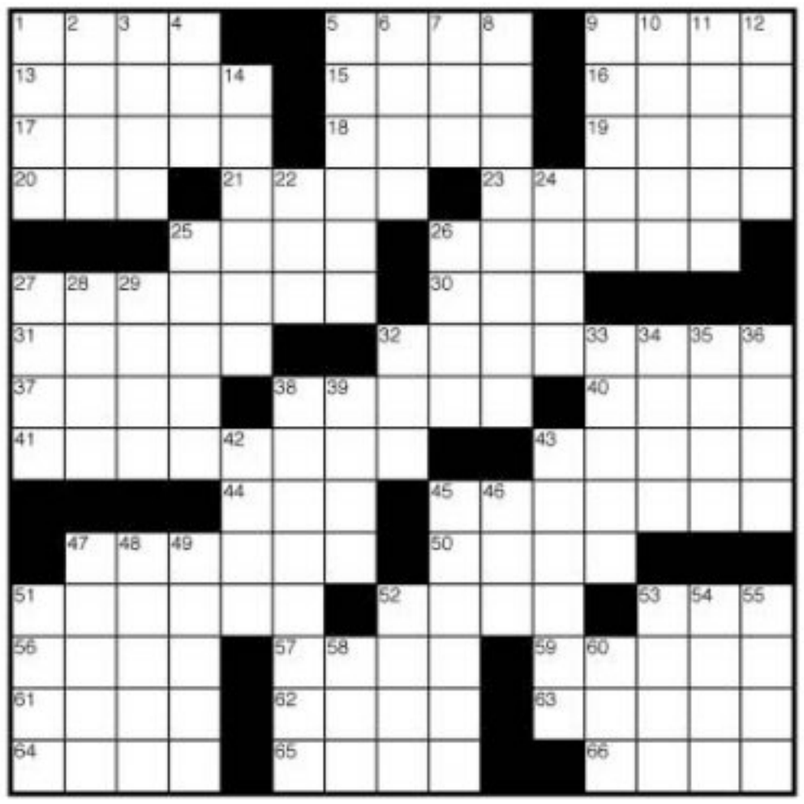
♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** Ambitions having to do with material gains have good chances of being fulfilled. However, you might not score equally well on your social interests.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** It behooves you to be a better listener than a talker. While you're telling others what you know, someone might be trying to tell you something you don't know.

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** Getting involved in a joint endeavor could be quite iffy, especially if you are once again teaming up with someone who was part of a failed deal in the past. **BERNICE BEDE OSOL**

Across
1 Foot warmer
5 Box-office hit, slangily
9 Geisha's zither
13 Crowd in
15 Sewing kit
16 Garment for a sheik
17 Condor nest
18 Fellini-inspired musical
19 Early movie dog
20 Strut along
21 Fixes the fight
23 Quite possible
25 Verdi heroine
26 Recommend
27 Uproar
30 Vitamin monitor
31 In front
32 Magnificence
37 Layer of paint
38 "Crazylegs" Hirsch
40 Ploy
41 Action flick
43 Put on the late show
44 Stadium cheer
45 Rich
47 Burn slightly
50 D.A. backup
51 Soft fabric
52 Escape hatch
53 San Francisco hill
56 __ fixe
57 Canning tomato
59 Powerful adhesive
61 Culture dish goo
62 Leatherneck org.
63 English Channel port
64 Mardi Gras follower
65 Pyramid builder
66 Vacuum attachment

Down
1 Wild guess
2 Nabisco cookie
3 Firm, for short
4 Pond carp
5 __ tiger
6 Elevator name
7 Lots of laughs
8 Enjoyable time (2 wds.)
9 Drab color
10 Camel stops
11 Deed
12 Thumbs-up
14 Era
22 Deposed Amin
24 "Terrible" tsar
25 Fine violin
26 Big hairdo
27 Ambassador's forte
28 Oops! (hyph.)
29 Raise, as kids
32 Menacing sound
33 Lived
34 Blarney Stone site
35 __ Bator
36 Monthly expense
38 Silver-gold alloy
39 Rachel's sister
42 Ancient harp
43 Oxidized
45 City near Monte Alban
46 Frat letter
47 Swamp grass
48 Just washed
49 Plain to see
51 Perfume bottle
52 Tube trophy
53 Exploding star
54 Draft animals
55 Polar explorer
58 Mama bear, in Madrid
60 Captured soldier



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	4				6		9	3
	2				7			
			7	1	5	9		
4	7			8			2	5
		9	4	3	2			
			3				1	
9	6		2				3	
	1	5						7

SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

3			2		6		8	
						7		
		8	5		4	3	1	
6					9	8	5	
		5				2		
	9	2	7					4
	2	1	8		5	4		
		3						
	4		1		2			3

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to yesterday's crossword

P	L	A	N	B		A	R	C	H		X	E	N	A
S	A	M	O	A		N	E	R	O		R	Y	E	S
A	S	O	U	L		S	L	O	P		A	R	E	A
T	H	I	N	K	T	W	I	C	E		T	E	R	N
				A	V	E	C		F	E	E			
S	E	M	I	N	A	R		C	U	D	D	L	E	D
A	M	A	S	S			K	I	L	O		I	R	A
H	A	R	T		M	A	I	D	S		W	O	O	F
I	I	I		D	I	N	T			C	O	N	D	O
B	L	A	T	A	N	T		L	O	O	K	S	E	E
			O	B	I		P	E	L	E				
P	A	S	S		B	E	A	V	E	R	D	A	M	S
E	L	I	S		I	D	L	E		C	O	T	T	A
C	A	G	E		K	E	E	L		E	V	E	N	S
S	E	N	D		E	N	D	S		D	E	N	S	E

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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Must-see TV

Tiger finally feeling good

The Masters golf tournament opens today at Augusta National.

We'll save you the boring details. Tiger Woods is going for his fifth Masters title after earning his first Tour win [on March 25] since 2009. Woods said he's ready.

"I feel like I'm driving the ball much better than I have," he said yesterday. "I've got some heat behind it, and it's very straight."

2012 Phillies preview

BREAKING DOWN THE PHILLIES ROSTER

The Phillies open the 2012 season today (1:35 p.m., CSN) in Pittsburgh. Much has been made about the injuries to Ryan Howard and Chase Utley, and what could be a very anemic offense ... here is our take:

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▶ Galvis

- **First base.** There is a gaping hole left by Ryan Howard's Achilles injury. Who knows when he'll come back and if the lack of strength in his leg will impact his pop. Jim Thome, Ty Wigginton, John Mayberry Jr. and Laynce Nix will try to fill the void.
- **Second base.** Another huge hole. Chase Utley is out indefinitely. Will Utley ever be the same player he was? Freddy Galvis, who is learning second base on the fly, should provide solid defense but hitting big-league pitching is a maybe.
- **Shortstop.** Can you imagine the bind the Phillies would be in if they didn't re-sign Jimmy Rollins? J-Roll looked good in Clearwater. Expect Rollins to try to drive in runs out of the three-hole.
- **Third base.** How great would it have been if the Phillies acquired a power hitting-third baseman and made Placido Polanco a supersub? It would have looked awfully good. Instead, the Phillies are stuck with the aging, oft-injured Polanco at third.
- **Left field.** It is John Mayberry's job to lose. After a strong second half in 2011, he earned the gig despite a poor spring. The Phillies need Mayberry to drive in runs and hit right-handed pitching. Nix should get some playing time as well.
- **Center field.** Shane Victorino is in his prime entering his walk year. Expect a strong season from the Flyin' Hawaiian. He was very good in the five-hole last season.
- **Right field.** Meet your clean-up hitter. Hunter Pence will be the key to offensive production. Will the three- and five-hole hitters offer enough protection or will hurlers pitch around him?
- **Catcher.** Carlos Ruiz works very well with the aces and is exceptional at digging pitches out of the dirt. Can Chooch have a plus-year at the plate? The Phillies can use the production.
- **Starting rotation.** It doesn't get any better than Roy Halladay, Cliff Lee and Cole Hamels. The aces might be enough to lead the Phils to another division title. But can Vance Worley avoid a sophomore slump? And is Joe Blanton healthy enough to be an innings-eater?
- **Bullpen.** Jonathan Papelbon should be lights-out. Antonio Bastardo and Michael Stutes are questions. Chad Qualls is a solid veteran the team needs since Jose Contreras will start on the DL. Kyle Kendrick is invaluable as a spot starter/long man.
- **Bench.** Charlie could use a right-handed bat, but his reserves have a lot more power than last year's model. Thome, Nix and Wigginton can all go deep.
- **Coaching.** Charlie Manuel will have his hand's full coming up with the best lineup possible. If the Phils can survive the injuries and win in a much-improved NL East, then Manuel will have a legitimate claim for NL Manager of the Year.

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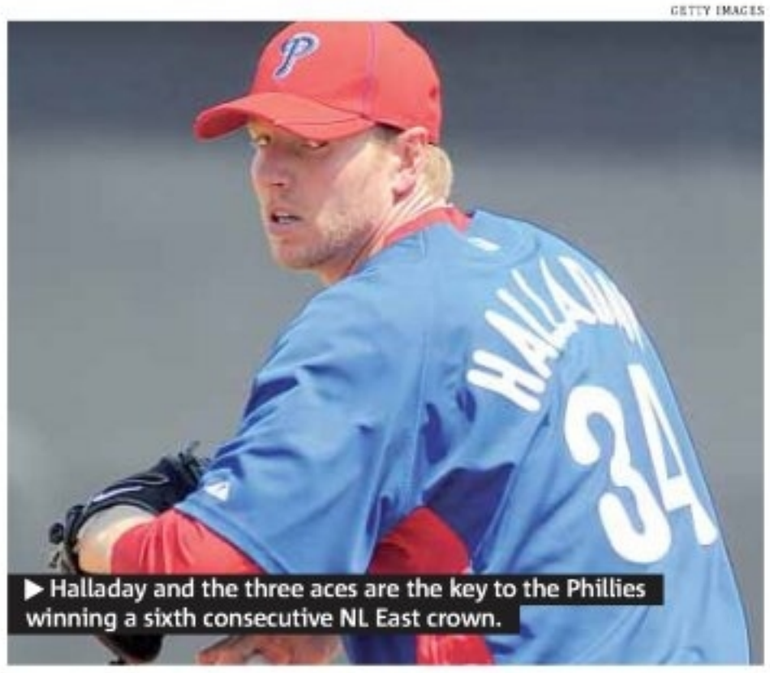

▶ Halladay and the three aces are the key to the Phillies winning a sixth consecutive NL East crown.

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New role for J-Roll, Pierre to lead off

Charlie Manuel loves sticking with his guys.

And for nearly his whole Phillies managerial career, his lead-off guy has been Jimmy Rollins.

That era appears to be over — at least until the Phils are at full strength. Manuel will bat newcomer Juan Pierre in the top spot — maybe Shane Victorino on some nights — and shift Jimmy Rollins to the three-hole. Placido Polanco will remain at No. 2.

"Jimmy knows how to play. He's a tremendous player. He knows his hitting," Manuel said.

Rollins hit third in both exhibition games this week and went 1-for-5 with two RBIs. He batted .271 in 27 games there last season, along with a .361 on-base percentage. METRO

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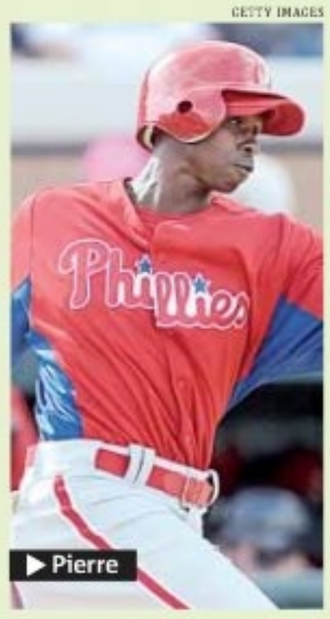

▶ Pierre

Roster set

The Phillies' Opening Day roster has 12 pitchers, two catchers, six infielders and five outfielders.

- **Pitchers:** Joe Blanton, Roy Halladay, David Herndon, Jonathan Papelbon, Kyle Kendrick, Chad Qualls, Michael Stutes, Vance Worley, Antonio Bastardo, Cole Hamels, Cliff Lee, Joe Savery.
- **Catchers:** Carlos Ruiz, Brian Schneider
- **Infielders:** Freddy Galvis, Pete Orr, Placido Polanco, Jimmy Rollins, Jim Thome, Ty Wigginton
- **Outfielders:** John Mayberry, Laynce Nix, Hunter Pence, Juan Pierre, Shane Victorino

'Pen pals: Qualls looks to provide veteran voice

The Phillies two most notable question marks are Ryan Howard and Chase Utley. But there are other uncertainties. Like in the back of the bullpen.

After a lights-out April, Jose Contreras was finished due to an elbow injury. The 40-year-old will start the season on the DL. Luckily, the Phillies signed an insurance policy in veteran Chad Qualls. He'll be asked to provide a veteran presence to flank youngsters Antonio Bastardo and Michael Stutes.

Qualls, 33, has been an innings-eater over his career. He has thrown more than 70 innings in five of his eight seasons. He is 38-34 with a 3.78 ERA and 51 saves.

"I do what I have to do when I get out there," Qualls said. "I'm a guy that you can rely on to go out there and get outs."

On TV today

Phillies at Pirates, 1:35 p.m. (CSN)

Qualls, who signed a one-year, $1.15 million contract, has appeared in more games than any other major league pitcher since 2005.

"My job is to come in to pitch," Qualls said. "I try to remain as healthy as possible to do what I have to do. I take pride in taking the ball every day. I deal with the fatigue and bumps and bruises. That's all part of the game. It's a long season and you need a guy who can go out there every day in the bullpen."

Relievers are the most volatile part of a baseball team. And both Bastardo and Stutes are wild cards after fizzling down the stretch a year ago.

"Year to year you never know what's going to happen with some guys in the 'pen," Qualls said. "You really need to have some guys that are like rocks there, who you can depend on."

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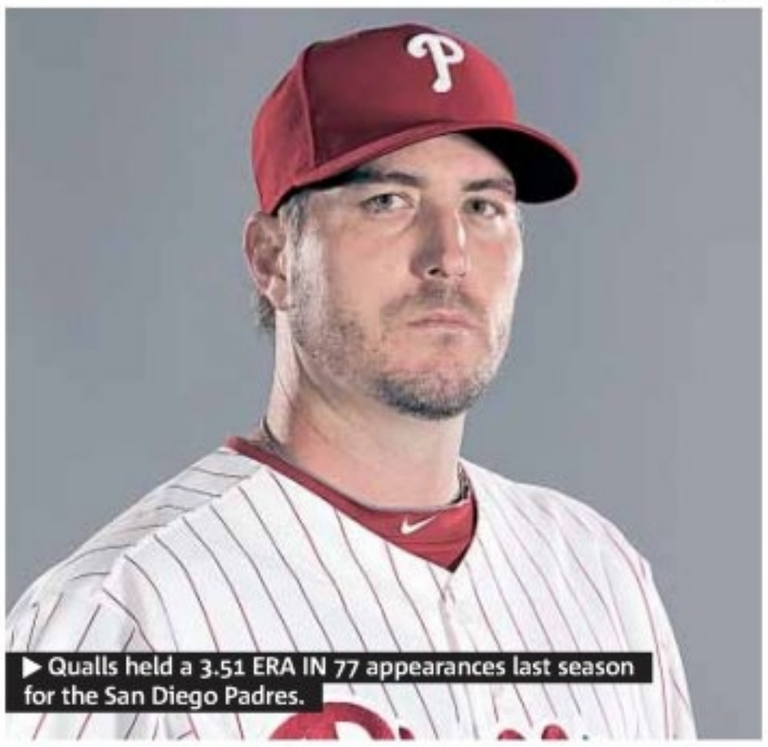

▶ Qualls held a 3.51 ERA IN 77 appearances last season for the San Diego Padres.

Fantasy sports

ADAM LEVITAN
ALEVITAN@METRO.US

PROSPECTING FOR GOLD

Now that all fantasy drafts are in the rear-view, the only real way to get veteran help will be via trade.

But there's an easier way. Later on this season, baseball's next big stars will get called up and make a splash. Some stash candidates:

Rocky top

The Rockies are comfortable going into the year with Chris Nelson and Jordan Pacheco at third base. That's because they have mega-prospect Nolan Arenado waiting in the wings. He could very well finish the year as the everyday third baseman.

Meanwhile, 23-year-old Drew Pomeranz is a lefty with nasty stuff. He's won the fifth starter job in Colorado, but will start the year in the minors. Stash.

Parker's park

Jarrod Parker is at Triple-A Sacramento right now, but he'll soon call the pitcher-friendly confines in Oakland home. He had Tommy John surgery in 2009 and projects to be at full health this season.

Bow Bauer

Trevor Bauer was the No. 3 overall pick in last year's draft and looked big-league ready in this spring. Arizona's rotation is set for now, but Bauer is one injury away from a call-up. There's plenty of reason for deep-leaguers to hold on tight here.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Jarrod Parker will start in Triple-A this season.

21.0

Points per game for DeMarcus Cousins since the All-Star break. He's a dominant talent.

Baseball closers

We already have movement in the saves category:

1 **Alfredo Aceves, BOS** — Andrew Bailey needs surgery on his throwing thumb. Mark Melancon will be in the mix, but Aceves gets the first shot.

2 **Joel Peralta, TB** — Kyle Farnsworth is expected to hit the DL with an elbow strain. Peralta struggles against lefties, but he's the man for now.

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Eagles answer the Bell

Team shores up battered offensive line with new left tackle Veteran set to replace injured Peters Reid, Birds 'quite impressed' with him

The void is filled.

The Eagles took care of their biggest need yesterday by inking free-agent Demetress Bell to a five-year contract. The 27-year-old will take over the starting spot at left tackle vacated last week by Jason Peters, who is out for the season after rupturing his Achilles tendon.

The Eagles also made a note that Bell's first name is Demetress. It had been previously spelled as Demetrius.

"Demetress was one of the top free-agent offensive linemen available this year, and we are happy to be able to add him to our squad," coach Andy Reid said. "We had a chance to meet him over the weekend and study him extensively on tape, and we came away quite impressed with what we saw and heard. He's a great athlete."

Bell started six games for the Bills last season as he dealt with a nagging shoulder injury. In 2010, he started all 16 games. In an ironic twist, he took over the starting job in Buffalo after Peters bolted for the Eagles.

"Demetress is a guy we've followed since he joined the league," Eagles GM Howie Roseman said in a statement. "He's a big, athletic left tackle and he has quite a few games of experience under his belt with Buffalo. He'll excel with our style of play on the offensive line."

MIKE GREGER
mgreger@metro.us

Family ties

- Bell is the estranged son of former NBA star **Karl Malone**, but they don't share a normal father-son relationship. Malone has never acknowledged Bell publicly.
- **"I treat it as if my mother went to the sperm bank,"** Bell told ESPN in 2008. "I don't hate him for [not being in my life]. It made me a better person."

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▶ Bell made six starts for the Bills last season. The 27-year-old signed a five-year deal with the Eagles yesterday.

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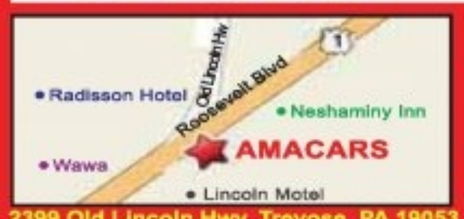

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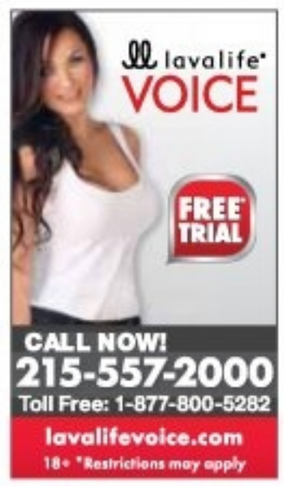

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